

PROCEEDINGS
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A NEW SPECIES OF *EUPERA* (MOLLUSCA;
PELECYPODA) FROM HAITI

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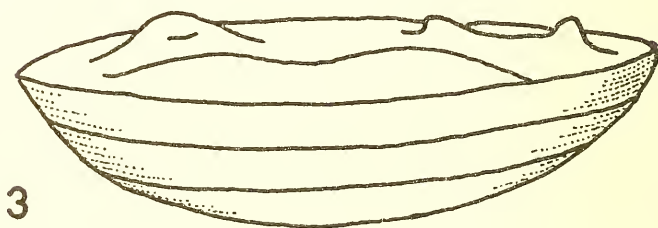
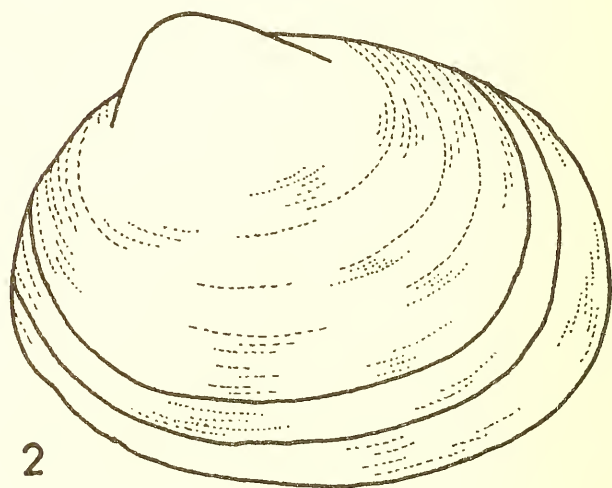
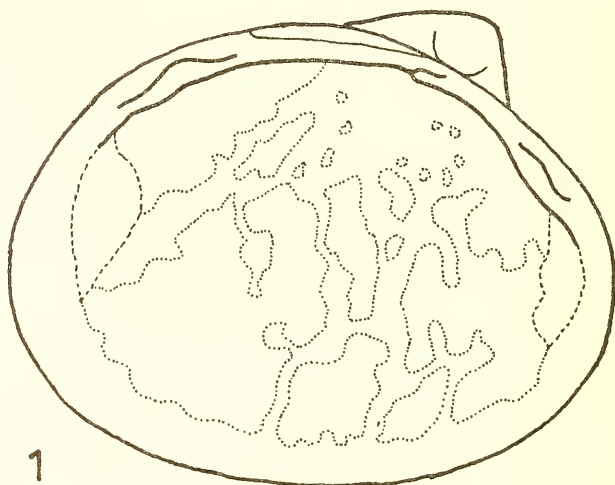
The genus *Eupera* Bourguignat, 1854, is represented in the Greater Antilles by the following species: *E. cubensis* (Prime, 1865) from Cuba; *E. portoricensis* (Prime, 1863) and *E. parvula* (Prime, 1865) from Puerto Rico and *E. veatleyi* (C. B. Adams, 1849) from Jamaica, which to date has not been cited from Hispaniola.

While recently checking material of this genus in the collections of the U.S. National Museum, I came across an undetermined lot consisting of a large number of isolated valves (possibly inarticulated when collected) found in the southwest of the island, near Los Cayes, Dept. du Sud, Haiti. Having studied this material, I arrived at the conclusion that it represented a new species, which I describe as follows:

***Eupera haitiensis* new species**
Figures 1-3

Description: (Holotype, left valve). (Fig. 1). Shell of medium size for the genus; subovate, short and very deep for its size; margins smooth, slightly arched, united in a regular curve that does not present any particular characteristic. The anterior margin much shorter than the posterior; the inferior, the longest.

Umbo large, with a forward and inward projection and situated on a level with the first anterior third of the shell, while projecting conspicuously above the superior margin (Fig. 2). Cardinal tooth, small and simple. In its lateral aspect it has the appearance of a very small, short and straight lamella, obliquely located on the curved hinge, beneath and to the rear of the umbo. In its inferior aspect (Fig. 3), it has the appearance of a small, truncate cone, the anterior face of which continues slightly downwards, while the posterior, short side, terminates abruptly and almost vertically.



This tooth is separated from the anterior margin by a small and not very deep parallel groove that engages the cardinal of the opposite valve.

On its anterior side an articular surface is present where the interior face of the right cardinal rests. Lateral teeth, simple; the anterior tooth with a short but robust base, appears from below as a higher cone than that of the cardinal. It is separated from the exterior margin by a small groove and presents on its superior and inferior faces a sharply defined articular surface.

The posterior lateral, lower and more extended, presents in its inferior aspect a conical profile, low but very regular. It, too, is separated from the external margin by an extended groove.

As in the other lateral, it presents on its superior and inferior faces a clearly defined articular surface.

The ligament, fine and elongate, extends from the umbo as far as the origin of the posterior lateral. It is limited inferiorly by a thin but quite perceptible ridge, parallel to the superior margin.

The internal surface, brilliant beyond the pallial line and in the impressions of the adductors, but opaque in the rest of the shell.

Color white, but splotchy, with characteristic purplish-brown spots, clotted and clustered, although limited in expansion by the pallial line.

The external surface, wanting in periostracum, presents a dullish white color with very fine concentric lines of growth alternating with larger, thick, rough and irregular ridges, of which it is possible to discern four.

Holotype: U.S.N.M. 404968. Left valve. Collected by C. R. Orcutt. Date: 17 May 1929

Type-Locality: O'Shell Sugar Plantation, near Los Cayes, Dept. du Sud, Haiti

Measurements: (in mm) 5.0×4.0

Paratypes: U.S.N.M. 679533. Same data as the holotype

M.N.H.N. Montevideo. 1328. Same data as the holotype

U.S.N.M. 440232. Los Cayes, Dept. du Sud, Haiti (Orcutt!)

U.S.N.M. 439871. Bizoton, Dept. de l'Ouest, Haiti (Orcutt!)

Remarks on Paratypes (Right Valve): Cardinal weaker. It appears as a small oblique fold that in its inferior aspect does not extend beyond the superior margin of the shell. On its inferior face, however, it presents a very small articular surface that is separated from the exterior margin by a shallow cavity.

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FIGS. 1-3. *Eupera haitiensis* n. sp. (Holotype, U.S.N.M. 404968). Fig. 1—Internal view. Fig. 2—External view. Fig. 3—The hinge.

The anterior laterals, though solid, are low and very short (the inferior the larger), and are separated from one another by a relatively deep cavity.

The posterior laterals (the inferior the larger) are also low but more extended than the anterior, and are separated by a narrow groove that is not so deep but longer than that of the anterior.

The inner faces of the laterals (both anterior and posterior) are finely granulate (as shown under magnification). The zones where the periostracum is still present are of a greenish-gray color and are not very brilliant. Over and above this, they exhibit the concentric lamellae already described in other species of the genus.

In some of the young specimens the periostracum presents a light-brownish color. Practically all the specimens show the thick and rough concentric ridges that were observed in the holotype; the number variable but as many as 15.

The depth of the valves and the strong teeth as compared with these features in other species of the genus is striking. The shape of the shell is remarkably constant in the whole lot.

Discussion: Compared with *E. cubensis*, the new species that we describe here may be easily distinguished by its different shape, characterized by its shorter posterior margin and more developed umbo.

In *E. cubensis*, the superior margin is higher posteriorly than the umbo, it being the highest part of the shell.

In *E. haitiensis*, on the other hand, the umbo is the highest part of the shell and definitely exceeds the superior margin. The cardinal tooth of the left valve is lower and more robust in *E. haitiensis*, while in *E. cubensis* it is higher and weaker. Nevertheless, the laterals are more elongated in this last species. The same occurs in the case of the other forms, *E. vealeyi*, *E. portoricensis* and *E. parvula*, of the area.

I may add that the position of the umbo is more central in *E. haitiensis* than in the other above-mentioned species. The same applies to *E. bahamensis* Clench, with which I have also compared *E. haitiensis*.

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